

## REMARKS

Claims 1–31 are pending in the application. Claims 1 – 26 are rejected under 35 USC 103. Claims 27 – 31 are new. Claims 1, 8, 10, 11, 12, 18 – 21, and 24 – 26 are hereby rewritten.

### Claims 1, 8, 10, 11, 12, 18 – 21, and 24 – 26

Claims 1, 8, 10, 11, 12, 18 – 21, and 24 – 26 are amended in order to correct typographical errors and/or in response to the Examiner's remarks at page 9 of the Office Action dated December 11, 2003 regarding arguments presented by Applicants in response to the previous Office Action.

### Rejections under 35 USC 103

The rejections entered by the Examiner are identical to those presented in an earlier Office Action. The Examiner's response to Applicants' previous reply is presented at page 9 of the Detailed Action dated 11 December 2003. In response to the Examiner's observations, Applicants have amended claims 1, 10, 11, 21, 24, and 26 to clarify that the temporary restriction recited by the claims is of predetermined duration.

Applicants believe that each of the independent claims, and with them each of the dependent claims, is in condition for immediate allowance, and request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

New Claims 27 - 31

It is submitted that new claims 27-31 are also allowable for the reasons stated above.

Request for Interview

In the event that the Examiner has any questions or comments, or any remaining concerns regarding the patentability of the claims, Applicants respectfully request a telephone interview with the Examiner to discuss the claims in view of the cited references.

## CONCLUSION

The claims are allowable over the prior art of record for the reasons discussed above. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are requested.

Submitted herewith is a Petition for Extension of Time in which to enter this response, with a check in the amount of the required fee. Applicants believe that no other fee is due in connection with this response. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in any fee required for this response, including any petition fee, to Deposit Account No. 02-4270.

Respectfully submitted,

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